

NSC BRIEFING

25 September 1956

SUEZ BACKGROUND: ANNEX A--EGYPTIAN MILITARY DISPOSITIONS

- I. Ground Forces. Estimated strength of the Egyptian Army (including the National Guard) is 107,000. This force is deployed in three principal areas, as follows:

Sinai Peninsula & Israeli Front -- 34,400

Canal Zone -- 15,000

Nile Delta Area -- 56,100

- A. G-2 estimates that 1,500 other Egyptian troops are in scattered garrisons up the Nile and in Western Desert oases.
- B. The substantial withdrawals from Sinai in the past few weeks include 1 infantry and most of 1 armored division.
- C. A selective inventory of Egyptian armament shows the following:

TANKS			MISC ARMORED VEHICLES		ARTILLERY FIELD		ARTILLERY A/T	
L.	M.	H.	650	SP	75mm- 100mm	100mm- 155mm	SP	57mm- 75mm
40	259	82		11	124	50	151	249
ARTILLERY A/A			ARTILLERY MISC					
20mm- 40mm	75mm- 130mm	Rocket-launchers, recoilless		Mortars 81mm-120mm				
470	36	1,200		288				

ARMY review(s) completed.

II. Naval Forces. Principal concentrations are in three areas:

ALEXANDRIA:

4 destroyers
4 patrol escorts
6 fleet minesweepers
7 coastal minesweepers
8 motor torpedo boats

PORT SAID:

2 patrol escorts
7 motor torpedo boats

RED SEA:

1 patrol escort
6 motor torpedo boats

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III. Air Forces.

A. Recent **EAF** redeployment will strengthen defense of the Canal Zone at the expense of the air defense of the Cairo area.

B. Present estimated deployment of the **EAF**, other than 19 IL-28s at Luxor, is in two main areas:

CANAL ZONE AREA:

Abu Suweir -- 15 MIG-15 jet fighters
Fayid -- 20 Meteor jet fighters
Kabrit -- 15 MIG-15 jet fighters
Kasfareet -- 17 Vampire jet fighters

CAIRO AREA:

Almaza -- 9 piston fighters
8 piston recon.
C/West -- 17 Vampire jet fighters
27 jet l. bombers
6 piston m. bombers
Inchas -- 15 MIG-15 jet fighters

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